

Press Release

Return Journey

Swansea Valley Celebration Male Choir

*50 Voices in Concert promoting local
talent and heritage*

Carbondale, October 15, 2018: **Côr Dathlu Cwmtawe Male Choir** from the Swansea Valleys of Wales reprises their inspiring 2015 concert tour of NEPA. Sponsored by the ***Carbondale Historical Society***, there are 5 US concerts scheduled beginning in Carbondale, October 28th. The choir brings the gifts of song, heritage, and tradition from the Swansea valleys to the communities that the Welsh helped create through coal, iron, and culture.

The Carbondale Historical Society, led by Dr. S. Robert Powell, a serious contributor to regional research, has recently published the last 4 volumes of a 24 volume, 10,000 page history of the D & H Canal Co. Gravity Railroad. Sponsoring concerts by a Welsh choir from the Swansea Valleys adds an entertaining cultural dimension to the society's accomplishments that is historically appropriate. Ninety Welsh families were recruited here in the 1830's to mine coal. Scranton and Bethlehem recruited Welsh iron masters from the Swansea area to start that industry. Along with the

For immediate release

technology, the tradition of choirs became a large part of NEPA culture for over 100 years.

The tour of 2015 saw local High School choirs being invited to sing with the Welsh choir. A tradition of intergenerational mentoring by Welsh choristers, many of whom are educators, had an international impact. The Valley View HS Voices of the Valley Choir was invited to tour Wales for two weeks in 2017. The talent that our students presented impressed both audiences and the top national Welsh choirs with whom they sang.

The Swansea Valley Choir will re-unite with Valley View students on October 30th and will welcome students from Old Forge and Western Wayne at concerts on the 28th and 29th.

- **Carbondale Methodist Church**, October 28th, 7PM
Special guest: Old Forge Elementary Choralaires
- **Western Wayne HS**, October 29th, 7Pm
Special guests: Western Wayne HS Marching Band
- **Valley View HS**, October 30th, 7PM
Special Guest: Voices of the Valley Choir
- **Wilkes-Barre First Presbyterian Church**, October 31st, 7PM
Pre-concert organ interlude by Dr. John Vaida
- **Bethlehem Trinity Episcopal Church**, Nov. 1st, 7PM

Featuring

Helen Gibbon, Soprano. **Kees Huysmans**, Bass Baritone. ***Both are four time winners at the National Eisteddfod of Wales.***

Dr. David Lyn Rees, Accompanist. A Primary Care Physician, Dr. Rees has been an international choir accompanist since his youth.

Conway Morgan, Conductor, Organist, Arts Educator,
Horse Breeder.

**Ticket information: Carbondale Historical Society
570-282-0385**

**Facebook: CD Choir US Tour 2018
(Presale \$15 ends 10/26, \$20 at the door)**